

The st thomas' story



30th August 2020

St Thomas' meets weekly using online resources and conference calls.

We will worship at 10.30am every Sunday followed by a Zoom meeting chat. Please click on the links below (in blue writing) to access the services.

Please check dates and times for **Midday and Night Prayers**.

A short video **'Thought for the Day'** (recorded by David McCarthy) will be available on Facebook.

The church is open for Prayer and Reflection on Monday & Wednesday, 10am – 12noon.

staff and contacts

Rector: Rev. David McCarthy

W: 0131 467 0660 M: 0741 123 6433

e: david@sst.church

Day off: Friday

Young Persons' Pastoral Worker:

Phil Taylor

T: 0131 285 8782

e: phil@saintthomas.org.uk

Day off: Monday

Worship Coordinator: David Harvey

T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)

e: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk

Church Coordinators:

Jane Ross & Rosemary Harvey

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm

T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)

e: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk

 @StThomasEdin

 St Thomas' Church, Edinburgh

<https://saintthomas.org.uk>

Vestry Secretary: Kathleen Demircan

T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)

e: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk

For items to be in next Sunday's the st thomas' story, please contact the office by 10 a.m. on Thursday.



Vestry meets on Monday 31st August using 'Zoom'

We look forward to welcoming you back to our physical Sunday gatherings from Sunday 6 September.

We need to adhere to the government regulations regarding social distancing and hygiene. There are a number of requirements we need to meet as we resume meeting together. We ask for your patience as we start back again, but please be assured that the reopening team is working hard to enable us to regather in all of our buildings as soon and as safely as possible.

Please telephone or email the church office to tell us you are coming. You must do this **by 9am on the Friday before. For that first Sunday that means 9am on Friday 4 September.** Initially our capacity is limited. Following the latest Scottish Government guidance it is mandatory to wear a face-covering in a place of worship. This means that you should wear a face covering throughout our time together, unless you have a medical condition, disability or other reason which exempts you from this restriction.

Details were emailed to church members on our email list on Friday morning. Contact us 0131 285 8782 if you are not on our email list but would like more information.

Can you help out with our Online Worship on Sundays with reading or most importantly prayers? Please contact the office if you can as a rota has been set up from Sunday 6 September. David will discuss what is needed and arrange to do them live during the service or pre – record them during the week.

The **Corstorphine Community Centre Emergency Foodbank** are in need of cereal, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, soup mix, stock cubes, rice, tinned fruit, packets/tinned deserts. Sandy Benzie is collecting donations (0131 339 4838) or you can take them in person, to Corstorphine Community Hub, St. John's Road on Wednesday mornings between 10 a.m. and noon, please do not leave donations outside as they cannot be used. Thank you.

If you have been knitting **Beanie hats for Mission to Seafarers**, please can you let Sue Gordon know (01506 418 466) or they can be left at the church office during opening hours. If you would like to knit some, patterns are available from the office.

We have a closed (private) Facebook group (*Embrace*) for St Thomas' people to share needs, resources and prayers. This is a members group and you need to be invited to join the group so please contact David McCarthy for an invitation to be sent to you. If you have urgent prayer concerns or needs, please contact the office by email or leave a message and we will ring back. Contact details are on front page.

NEW CHURCH PHONE NUMBER: 0131 285 8782

Please note this important change which comes as a result of installing a new fibre phone line for our improved internet service. We have been unable to port the old number to the new system.

Our new church website is live, please do visit

<https://www.saintthomas.org.uk>. For more details, please see the 'Introduction to new St Thomas' website' document and an image of the 'My Area' section which have been sent with the pastoral letter. Within 'My Area', you can adjust your details, contact preferences and access your rota reminders.

Top tip: to link easily to our Facebook page, YouTube channel and our Twitter account, just click on the social media icons at the top right of the website main page. Thank you to those who have given feedback on the new website. Please do explore and let the Communication Team know what you think by emailing us stts.comms@gmail.com or contacting Angela Benzies.

Our Facebook page is now an important resource for communication. We encourage as many as possible to use it.

<https://www.facebook.com/stthomasedin/>

See message on previous page stating you do not need a Facebook account to access this.

Phil Taylor and our volunteers are working hard to keep in contact with all our young people and looking for ways they may be able to meet outside. Details will follow. Contact Phil at phil@saintthomas.org.uk if he can be of help.

St Thomas' Church Online
Week Beginning 30 August 2020

Online Worship & Gathering

All worship events are available online at:

<https://www.facebook.com/sthomasedin>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1r0Eq3PqBmxioDssYXCbGQ>

<https://www.pscp.tv/StThomasEdin>

Sunday 30 August

Online Worship @ 10.30am – I LOVE MY CHURCH:

Post Worship Chat – Join Zoom Meeting

Monday 31 August

@12pm – Midday Prayer (Facebook)

Tuesday 1 September

@9.30pm Night Prayer (Facebook)

Wednesday 2 September

@12pm Midday Prayer (Facebook)

@2-3.30pm Rooted Bible Study

Contact Kerstin Prill (kerstinprill67@gmail.com) for how to join this 'Zoom' meeting.

Thursday 3 September

@ 10am - 'Zoom' Coffee Online

Join Zoom Meeting

@9.30pm – Night Prayer (Facebook)

for our prayer

We pray for David and Ali as they return to work this week. Let us be considerate of all that needs to be done and be patient and understanding.

We pray for the Trustees and Vestry as they meet on Monday evening that God will be in their discussions and decisions going forward.

We pray for Bishop Andy Lines in his role of leading churches in the UK and Europe as we seek to make Jesus known: for endurance and wisdom. We pray he will preach a message we need to hear this morning and that you will protect him in his busy role. Pray also for the team who are live streaming the service from St Thomas' today for a trouble free service which uplifts us all.

For the Church around the world...

For the Church in Scotland...

we pray for our friends in Westhill Community Church, St Silas', Glasgow and on the Isle of Harris – that they will remain faithful, see the Lord's provision and His kingdom growing. We pray too for all those church communities around the country which are working to find ways to serve their local communities in these difficult times.

We pray for our own government and all governments that have tried to find ways of dealing with this crisis, thanking God for the blessings of wise decision makers and advisers ...

We pray for the nations of the world:

We pray for the people of Beirut and Lebanon as they struggle with so many problems on a vast scale. Provide for their needs ...

We pray for the local community:

We give thanks for frontline workers,
essential services that have kept working ...
for our schools ... the police ...

for community volunteers who keep in touch with the housebound ...
for those who return to work ... those who wait to return to work ...
those who have no work to return to ...
for business owners who try to keep going ...
for those who still live with fear ...
for the people of Corstorphine, Edinburgh and Scotland...

We pray for those in need:

In our hearts, we name individuals, families, neighbours,
care homes, hospitals, voluntary groups ...

We pray for those who are sick or isolated, at home or in hospital ...

We pray for those we have offered to pray for ...

We pray for all who grieve and mourn at this time ...

We remember, and give thanks for, the faithful departed ...

may their families find comfort and support in the prayers of friends ...

May their memories be a blessing to us ...

God, we trust that you are good and do good. Teach us to be your faithful people in this time of global crisis. Help us to follow in the footsteps of our faithful shepherd, Jesus, who laid down his life for the sake of love. Glorify his name as you equip us with everything needed for doing your will.

Amen